

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated December 28, 2004, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following remarks.

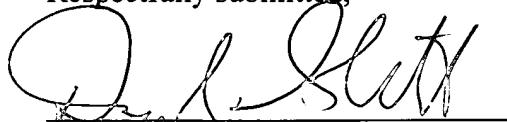
First, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that the application is in condition for allowance except for the objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), of not depicting discrete dispersion compensators.

Applicants propose to add new Figure 6 which, as stated previously, depicts discrete dispersion compensators. The discrete dispersion compensators correspond to the features of the claimed invention, and are supported in the specification. The specification has been amended to include reference to Figure 6. No new matter has been added. It is believed that the objection to figures has been remedied, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached herewith is one (1) replacement drawing sheet, adding new Figure 6, depicting discrete dispersion compensators (C).

Applicants submit that new Figure 6 contains no new matter.

Attachments:      Replacement Sheet